



If you think you may have experienced conversion practices or know of a health service or health practitioner performing conversion practices, please seek support and information from the organisations referred to in this pamphlet.

*You can make a complaint to the Queensland Health Ombudsman, or report a 'conversion therapy' offence to the Queensland Police Service.



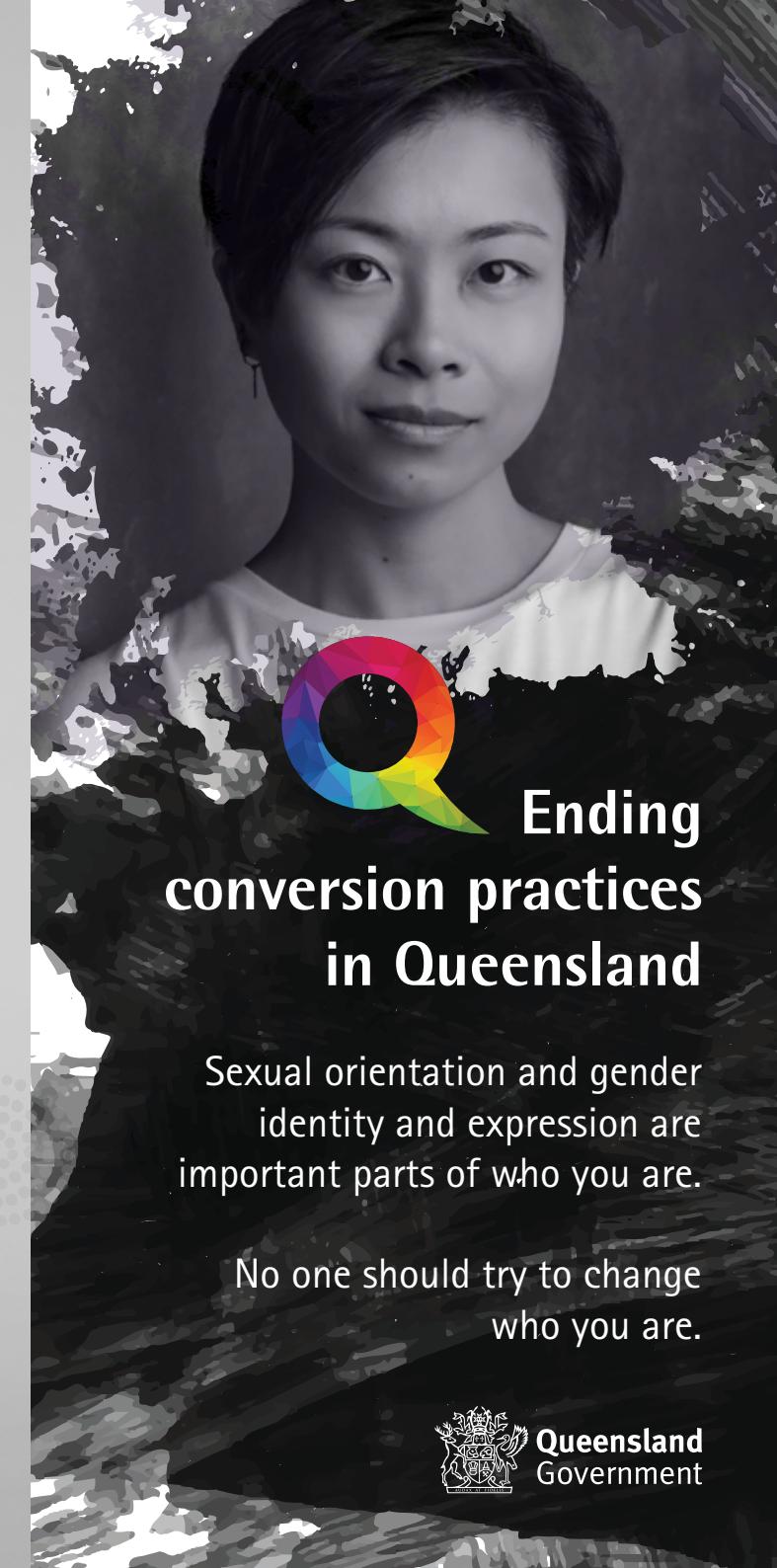
Acknowledgement of Country

The Queensland Government acknowledges Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands, waters and seas across the State of Queensland, and pays our respects to the Elders past, present, and emerging.

Acknowledgment

The Queensland Government pays our respects to those amongst the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and intersex communities who have worked to support the improved health and wellbeing of their peers, children, families, friends, and country. We honour the elders in the diverse communities of which we are a part and we celebrate the extraordinary diversity of people's bodies, genders, sexualities, and relationships that they represent.

We recognise the harms that conversion practices have, and continue to cause.





Did you know
that it is now against the
law for health practitioners
in Queensland to practice
so-called 'conversion
therapy' with LGBTQA+
people?

SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION

Variations in sexual orientation and gender identity and expression are parts of normal human experience.

Sexual orientation is diverse and there are many different types. It can be fluid and it can change over time. Your sexual orientation is about your sexual feelings, thoughts, attractions and behaviour towards other people.

Gender identity and expression is something we all have and do. Your gender identity may or may not correspond with the sex assigned at your birth. Gender expression is an essential part of us that influences how we live in our bodies and interact with the world around us, how we see ourselves and how the world sees us.

WHAT IS SO-CALLED 'CONVERSION THERAPY'?

So-called 'conversion therapies' are practices that aim to change or suppress a person's sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. These practices are based on disproven and dangerous ideology that being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or asexual are disorders that should be corrected or suppressed.

There are extreme examples of conversion practices that you may have heard about in the media such as 'ex-gay camps' or programs and courses designed with the goal of suppressing or changing sexuality or gender identity. However, there are also less obvious forms of conversion practices that are much more common and may include using shame or coercion to encourage someone to abstain from sexual activity and/or from expressing their gender identity. It might also include attempting to create incorrect links between difficult childhood experiences, such as an absent father, with sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.



SAFE SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

QLife

www qlife org au



QLife provides Australia-wide anonymous, LGBTI peer support and referral for people wanting to talk about a range of issues including sexuality, identity, gender, bodies, feelings or relationships.

Beyond Blue

Beyond Blue celebrates the strength, resilience and diversity of LGBTIQ+ communities and advocates for and supports these communities and their mental health.



BRAVE Network

Brave Network is a support and advocacy group for LGBTIQ+ people of faith and allies. The primary focus is ensuring the wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ people of faith, regardless of their faith journey.

